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SOCCER WORLD

THE VOICE OF
AUSTRALIAN SOCCER

15c

AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST AND ONLY INDEPENDENT SOCCER NEWSPAPER

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Best in Australia

Red Tulip

CONTINENTAL
CHOCOLATES

JAPAN SURE TO GIVE TOUGH BATTLES

— By LOU GAUTIER —

A first class chance to savour our World Cup qualifying chances — these are the three clashes with Japan.

On Saturday in Sydney and on Sunday in Melbourne, two of the top teams in this part of the world will begin what may soon develop into a tough struggle for Asian hegemony.

The way our Australian hopes played in Sydney last Sunday cannot fill anybody with optimism.

We can only hope that the few days of concentrated training will somehow bring them to their peak.

In 1966 I saw Japan at the Asian Games.

On their 1966 displays in Bangkok it was easy to understand why they rarely concede many goals against European and South American opponents.

Just like the present day Australian defences, the days when they risked a drubbing against superior opponents, are gone.

But just like in Australia, their forward play is still very far from perfect.

Though Japan only won the bronze medal at the Asian Games, I rate them the best team in the soccer tournament with Burma, the winners.

At the Games, Japan won the preliminary group II, beating Iran 3-1 in a riotous game which ended in an all-in brawl after an Iranian player had been sent off; they also beat India 2-1 and Malaysia 1-0.

In their quarterfinal group they beat both Thailand and Singapore 5-1.

In the semis, however, the Japanese wilted and Iran knocked them out 1-0 in the best match of the series.

Australia's task in the

three matches against Japan will not be a push-over.

Despite the home ground advantage and Japan's rush trip from Mexico, only a repetition of the superb form which enabled them to win in Saigon will give the Australians the edge in the three-match series.

Both teams should be strongest in defence, with Australia slightly ahead because of their stronger physique.

NO LIGHT-WEIGHTS

However, don't expect the Japanese to be small and slender light-weights.

The Japanese, though on the whole, less powerfully built and smaller than our players, are no dwarfs.

In Bangkok half the team was near the 5'8" mark, wiry, muscular and tough-looking.

The Japanese are no angels; they can give as much as they take.

They tackle hard, viciously at times, which sparked off some serious disturbances at the Asian Games, head the ball like Europeans, whereas most Asians are reluctant to do so, and their wingers operate like their European counterparts.

In Bangkok, the Japanese had the only wingers who crossed the ball from the flanks at the conclusion of fast, penetrative runs.

Japan's high crosses in front of their opponents' goal created havoc at the Asian Games and resulted in many goals because their relatively tall, rangy inside-trio is endowed with most

of the physical attributes of Western players.

The Japanese are undoubtedly the only team in Asia, with North Korea, which has assimilated the rudiments of modern, tactical football.

Not as individually gifted as the Indians or Malaysians, they overcome these failings with superb teamwork, a do-or-die spirit and characteristic thoroughness.

It is no coincidence the Japanese are known as the *Gomans of Asia*.

They put in a tremendous dedication in all they undertake, and soccer is no exception.

Australia's Achilles heel may again be their forward-line.

TEAM-WORK

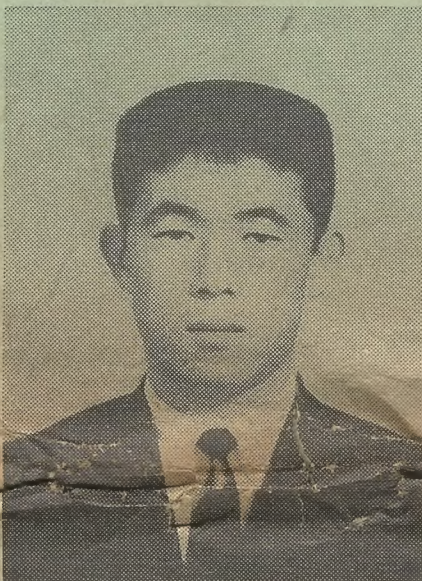
The Japanese, who have played together as a team for practically four years, should have developed better cohesion and teamwork in attack than the Australians who never played together before or since their triumphant 10-match tour of Asia in November-December 1967.

When I returned from the Asian Games I wrote that I wasn't sure that Australia would have beaten Japan.

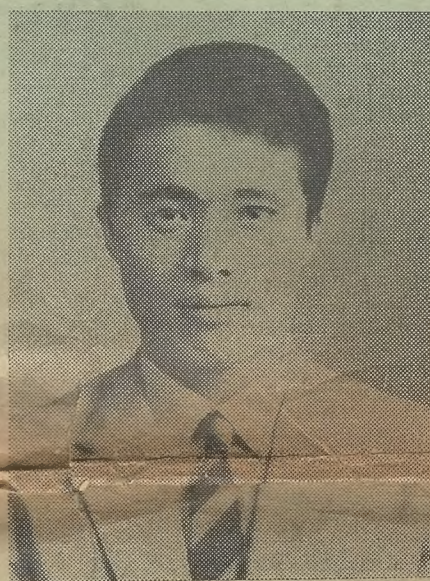
I'm still not sure we will come out on top in the series, but the cards are stacked in our favor.

This is our big chance to beat the Japanese.

In a few years, what with the phenomenal rate of Japan's soccer progress, it may be too late.



SUGIYAMA RYUICHI



KAMAMOTO KUNISHIGE

AUST. TO WIN, SAYS CRAMER

Australia, if they are well prepared, should beat Japan in the forthcoming internationals.

This is the view of visiting FIFA coach Dettmar Cramer who has spent more than two years in Japan as chief coach.

"The Japanese will face some severe handicaps," Cramer said this week.

"They will arrive here only the day before the match, after a long journey from Mexico.

"They will undoubtedly be tired. "Also, the usual home ground advantage and the crowd's support favor the Australians."

Cramer said the three-day preparation by Australia for the first match was insufficient. "It would be enough if the team trained together from time to time or if the players kept to a centrally prepared schedule in between international engagements.

"However, I understand this has yet to be done."

AUSTRALIA

- 1 R. CORRY
- 2 G. KEITH
- 3 S. ACKERLEY
- 4 M. SCHAEFER
- 5 D. VAN ALPHEN
- 6 L. SCHEINFLUG
- 7 T. McCOLL
- 8 J. WARREN
- 9 R. BAARTZ
- 10 A. BLUE
- 11 B. VOJTEK

JAPAN

- 1 YOKOYAMA K.
- 2 KATAYAMA H.
- 3 YAMAGUCHI Y.
- 4 SUZUKI R.
- 5 KAMATA M.
- 6 OGI A.
- 7 WATANABE M.
- 8 KUWAHARA Y.
- 9 KAMAMOTO K.
- 10 MIYAMOTO T.
- 11 SUGIYAMA R.

RESERVES FOR AUSTRALIA:

R. Kelly, R. Lloyd, A. Westwater, A. Marnoch, R. Blitz.

COACH: J. Vlasits.

COLORS: Green and Gold.

RESERVES FOR JAPAN:

Funamoto. K., Kami H., Mori T., Tomisawa K., Kimura T.

COACH: Okano S.

COLORS: Blue and White.

REFEREES:

Saturday in Sydney: V. DOBINSON (Qld.)
Sunday in Melbourne: A. BOSKOVIC (NSW).

German wizard gives great display

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

When famed FIFA coach Dettmar Cramer went to Leichhardt Police Boys Club last Friday night, barely 60 local coaches turned up.

Having attended courses double this number to see our best Australian coaches in action, one wonders why Cramer could only interest 60 souls all told.

Maybe it was the organisation, or maybe the location, or the night.

As well as the junior coaches, amongst those around the hall that night were Joe Vlasits, the Australian coach, Joe Venglos of NSW and Prague, Ron Lord, once of Prague, Sgt. Reg. Downton of the Police Boys Movement, Joe Marston of Wests, and amateur expert Col Rae of Belmore.

There were a dozen of Wests' under-18 squad in black and white, one youngster in a bright red strip, and another in a royal blue jersey.

Cramer started the warm-up at 7 p.m.

At 10.50 State Amateur secretary David Childs made Cramer a small presentation and the latter said his last word for the evening.

In between times, WE LISTENED TO A MASTER!

It was Manchester United, Inter Milan, Real Madrid, West Germany and Brazil rolled into one.

The lads demonstrated until they dropped.

Each "rest period," so called, was but a change in tempo.

Here was the COMPLETE PROFESSIONAL, showing how modern play-

Nothing stereotyped, systems of playing football were discussed, but the little German wizard soon put them in perspective.

"Coaches, study your players!"

Find out the players' abilities, and make your own improvisations accordingly.

In Rio, little colored boys can juggle the ball in a manner that virtually no Australian, German or Englishman can copy.

Yet England and West Germany fought out the World Cup final.

Body construction, character, temperament, mentality, tactics — these are national points of difference.

Use our own abilities to become champions in our own best way, otherwise we are but second rate copies.

But back to the start.

What made the message a memorable one for coaches to consider?

● Emphasis on dedication to improve in coaching and playing.

● The usual ingredients of fitness, skill and tactics, but in a vital, living form.

● Mainly, I believe, the fact that so much of the training can be handled by the player working as an individual and doing his own scheming before fitting into team movements.

The scheme set out by Cramer applies to High School, youth and senior players and would need modification for youngsters.

Fitness

Dettmar Cramer can see little future for players who cannot jump, and great stress is put on this activity, to the extent of players doing 50 jumps before really starting training.

For warm-up, running is out.

The players shadow box in pairs for three rounds, with plenty of fairly rhythmic foot, body and arm movements.

Breathing exercises and loose-limbed jogging fill the breaks.

Football Training

Each squad member has his own football, no longer a luxury in these days of plastic balls.

Players dribble en masse, improvising moves, weaving in and out of their fellows' way.

Between each exercise is a minute's break, more often than not taken up by a slow tempo exercise.

Then another dribbling session, but with each player looking two or three yards in front of the ball, changing direction, feinting.

Next individual heading practice, keeping the ball in the air.

Next dribbling, but moving in different directions.

Then something called by Cramer "a rest time exercise," which consists of bouncing the ball from knee to knee.

Changing speed when on the ball, exploding into top pace.

"Rest time," juggling the ball on the instep from foot to foot, stretch out the toes and bend the knees, avoid spin, keep the ball bouncing dead; trapping.

Every exercise Cramer demonstrated with due emphasis.

The soft, caressing touch of the ball, the gentle downward trap, through to smashing volleys and heading with the peak of the foot.

Trapping was based on the position of the ball as the player went to play it.

Straight ahead, the simple trap became simplicity indeed as he kept his gnome-like body crouched right behind the ball.

To take a ball from the side, he held his leg angled to the ground, with body slightly bent.

Then trapping with a feint by putting the weight on the right foot, and moving to the left.

Next, if the ball bounces on the left of the player, he traps with the outside of the right and vice versa, to flick the ball away from an oncoming attacker.

Now for some more "rest time" exercises.

Jump high, head the ball gently down to the foot, and trap.

Some speed dribbling, feinting at the same time.

Trapping with chest well under the ball as it comes downward.

Trapping ever so gently on the thigh.

Trapping on the side of the player with a quick turning motion.

"In Germany, as a boy of 12, I held the record for the number of times of consecutive heading of the ball, 5,111 times," said he.

But this does not accomplish much.

"Get a ball on a string. Practice kicking, and stopping. Instep, outside of foot inside of foot.

"All the movements are there."

Tie the ball to the clothes line, your hand, or a tree, at various heights.

Which, next week, will bring us to Cramer's pendulum method.

The pendulum can revolutionise soccer training in Australia.

What is it? Wait and see.

And remember mean-while, that every pass is a SERVICE to your teammates.

SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

Croatia will play the Canberra representative in a preliminary Australia Cup match in Sydney on Wednesday, April 10. The winner of this match is tentatively set down to play Hakoah on April 17 in a double-header which will also feature St. George-Budapest against Newcastle's Australia Cup entrant. Pan Hellenic and APIA, who clash in the first round of the national competition, have been scheduled to meet on Wednesday, May 1. The quarterfinals of the Australia Cup may start on May 8 in Sydney.

Prague beat Bankstown 4-2 in a TRIAL match at the Bankstown Soccer Centre last Saturday. In another trial game Thistle swamped Belmore 11-0 at Coleman Park last Sunday.

The PRAGUE v. LATROBE Australia Cup match at Marks Field on Sunday starts at 3.30 p.m., not 3 p.m. At 1.15 p.m. St. George play Croatia in a challenge match and at 2.45 p.m. the Prague ladies' team meets their counterparts from Hume United.

Croatia's JOHNNY KIRGAN suffered a broken leg last Saturday when Croatia's second grade side played Greenacre in a trial game at Allum Park. Kirgan's injury may interfere with his wedding arrangements as he was to have been married in seven weeks.

Memo David Jack of the "Sun": Japan lost 1-0 to West Germany's AMATEUR team, not the national team which reached the World Cup final. The German amateurs toured Asia late last year after losing to the English amateurs in an Olympic qualifying tie.

Australia Cup

Prague to win

Prague should be untroubled to beat Latrobe of Queensland in the first Sydney match of the new-look Australia Cup at Marks Field on Sunday.

Latrobe, the 1967 Queensland premiers, lost many players during the off-season and, to make things worse, have had very little match-play this year as the season in Queensland only kicks off next week.

Queensland reports indicate that Latrobe, the State's leading team for the past three seasons, may even be haunted by relegation worries this year.

Prague, on the other hand, are in excellent form as their Ampol Cup form suggests.

Latrobe, even at their best, didn't make the slightest impression in previous Australia Cups.

It's hard to imagine anything but a comfortable win for Prague despite Scheinflug's absence.

Likely teams:

Prague: King; Harcombe, Rootsey; Blacker, Zeman, Blanco; Gauto, Molnar, Manuel, Thorne, Hoggart.

Latrobe: Coe; Parruno, Winston; Stewart, Walton, Webber; Buchanan, Welsby, Hickman, Clemitson, Pirog. Reserves: Kovacevic, Barragh, King.

Referee: G. Muir (Newcastle).

In an Australia Cup elimination match in Adelaide last week Hellas (Bachelor, Pantelis) 2 beat Polonia 1 (Kolecki).

On Friday night, in Melbourne, Hakoah play their Australia Cup preliminary against Tasmania's Launceston United.

PETER RAMPLEY suffered a dislocated knee last Sunday during the NSW v. Victoria match where he was a linesman. Rampley slipped and fell badly, then had to be carried off the field. Dr. Corrigan put the knee joint back in its place and the linesman limped home fairly happily.

The president of Melita Eagles, VINCE PISANI, has officially denied that Melita has or ever had any interest in buying Trevor Edwards from Hakoah.

APIA's five Argentinian players made their debut last Sunday morning in a trial match against Melita Eagles at Lambert Park. Norberto Di Leonardo at centre-half was the most impressive, together with right inside Luis Santoro. APIA won 3-2.

Just how much goodwill do these PRESS DINNERS generate? Held at the Carlton-Rex at very considerable expense, the dinner itself was a success. One guest was TCN Channel 9 Programme Manager Alex Baz. Three days later, on Saturday evening, his station's Ron Casey, previewing the Sunday sporting events, never even mentioned the name of Victoria clash boss.

GREENACRE amateurs played Croatia seconds and thirds last week in final trials. Although beaten 2-0 and 4-0, Greenacre put on a good showing, and increased their hopes of taking out the Inter-Suburban League Third Division. Manager Bill Chalmers successfully tried out four of last year's under-16 XI.

WESTERN SUBURBS Association made another big move towards joining the city's major districts. This year it will field 86 teams, 16 more than last year. New clubs are drawn from Strathfield and Balmmain, where the RSL has entered seven teams.

St. George officials are very happy with their young Swiss, MAX DURR, who made a ground debut in a match against Canterbury, won 3-1 by the Saints.

The ABC's usual Sunday evening sports segment, following on the heels of the popular Jim Manning's "London Sportsletter", will be cut or scrapped. Out goes, with other items, Martin Royal's Sunday evening summary of soccer matches and results. The reason: the ABC is "broke" — and they cannot afford any longer this lavish produced program...

Over 700 YOUNGSTERS and some 1000 parents turned up last Saturday for St. George's junior gala coaching day, co-sponsored by a Sydney newspaper. Hundreds of team photos and 25 balls were given away among the youngsters.

The scheduled inter-city CONFERENCE between Sydney and Melbourne club leaders, set down for Saturday and Sunday last week, was once again cancelled when some Melbourne clubs demanded "more time" to prepare.

The first round of the Sydney First and Second Division competitions set down for this weekend will be played on the weekend of August 31 — September 1. The First Division matches which will be played are: Melita v. Pan Hellenic; Prague v. Manly; APIA v. Polonia; South Coast v. Yugal; Hakoah v. St. George and Canterbury v. Croatia.

CROATIA have been unable to secure Mascot Oval, which will again be used by junior rugby league. Croatia hope to play their home matches at Lambert Park, Wentworth Park and Marks Field.

South Coast have reduced BARRY SALISBURY's trans-



fer fee from \$1,000 to \$500. Salisbury is at present Balgownie's non-playing coach. The club has already offered South Coast \$400.

The father of former Budapest player, CHARLIE KANGYAR, died in Wollongong last week.

On Monday, April 1, the Mayor of Bankstown will launch the "QUEEN OF SOCCER" quest for candidates from clubs in the Bankstown Association. The quest will be held during the season. The crowning of the "Queen" will take place at the end-of-season ball. The Compass Centre is assisting with the promotion. Prizes include a 12-day holiday at Surfers Paradise, \$200 spending money, a portable TV set, furs, hair styles and many other prizes.

Croatia's new president is DON TUKAC. He is no newcomer to the club as he held the post two years ago before resigning owing to business commitments.

The Sydney Inter-Suburban FOURTH DIVISION will

start on the weekend of April 6-7. The other three Divisions kick off this Sunday.

With Cramer

DETTMAR CRAMER had a busy week in Sydney. On Sunday night, soon after his arrival, the Coaches Federation held a reception for him; on Monday he was at the South Coast holding demonstrations, on Tuesday night he was showing his wares at Manly, on Wednesday afternoon he was at the University of NSW, then held a session with the State squad, followed by an appearance at the Press Dinner; on Thursday he was in Orange and on Friday at the Leichhardt Police Boys Club. Cramer will be back in Sydney on Thursday and will spend some time with the Australian squad at Ryde.

There are only two senior clubs with senior coaches on the South Coast: South Coast United and Balgownie. Of the two, only Balgownie sent its coach, Barry Salisbury, to Cramer's demonstration at Wollongong; JIM KELLY was a notable absentee.

NEWCASTLE gave the most fitting reception to Dettmar Cramer during his whole NSW visit: everybody from the Lord Mayor down turned out to pay tribute to this remarkable little man last Saturday.

Of the dozens of people we have talked to about CRAMER, not one has yet remained unimpressed. The general opinion is that Cramer is what the doctor ordered for Australian soccer. Enthusiastic members of this sect include no lesser identities than ASF secretary Ian McAndrew, national coach Joe Vlasits, several club presidents and Australia's all-time great star Joe Marston.

CRAMER won't be able to see the Australia v. Japan match even on Saturday: his plane leaves for Bangkok three hours before kick-off. On Friday he will meet the presidents and coaches of all Sydney clubs.

Dettmar Cramer's most permanent chaperone in Sydney was JOE VLASITS, delegated by the NSW Federation and the coaches. However, somehow everybody has "forgotten" to provide him with expenses and the week — involving many travels — will go down in the Vlasits household as one of the most expensive ever.

We thank the clubs and organisations which have sent in their publications, house magazines, etc.

Received so far: Hakoah News (Sydney), Wilhelmina Supporters Club News (Melbourne), St. Mary's monthly Bulletin, monthly News of the NSW Federation of Referees, Soccer House Journal (St. George-Budapest) and Coaching Review, by the Australian Coaches Federation.

Shortly we will review these publications.

We ask the other clubs and organisations to also send us regularly their publications to Box 5061, GPO, Sydney, 2001.

THE "CREAM" OF AUST. SOCCER HAS TURNED REALLY SOUR

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Had there been a Japanese "spy" at Wentworth Park last Sunday he would have been the only spectator of the NSW v. Victoria match going home quite content.

The 7,286 Sydney fans certainly weren't in a joyful mood and hundreds showed what they thought of the dismal football dished out by both teams by walking out 15 minutes before the end.

Our fictitious Japanese would have sent word to the Japanese national team boss in Mexico that he had little to fear from Australia this weekend.

And if what we saw on Sunday, when every member of the Australian team

was on the field, is any indication, he would be dead right.

NSW won the match 1-0, but they have nothing to crow about.

Mind you, NSW, on the whole, deserved to win.

In the second half they were completely on top of a listless Victorian side which gave in without a fight.

NSW, however, were unable to score a goal after Scheinflug put them ahead in the 32nd minute with a

scorching 20-yard daisy-cutter which beat Schroif all the way.

Ironically, the only goal of the match came against the run of play, out of the blue, when Victoria were well on top.

The first half was easily Victoria's and they didn't deserve to trail at the interval.

The Victorians played the prettier, more constructive football until halftime.

Some of their short passes and clever midfield inter-passing was quite delightful, though ineffective.

In the second half Victoria surrendered their midfield grip and allowed NSW to take a firm hold on the match.

NSW: Corry; Lincoln, Ackerley; Schaefer, Marnoch, Scheinflug; Blue, Westwater, Warren (Yaager), Baartz, Fernandez (Blitz). Coach: J. Venglos.

Victoria: Schroif; Keith, Cook; Micic, Van Alphen, Goodwin; McMeechan, Abonyi, Randles, McKay (McColl), Vojtek. Coach: S. De Bruyckere.

Scorer: Scheinflug 32 min.

Referee: A. Boskovic (NSW).

Crowd: 7,286.



Victorian fullback Keith takes a tumble as he clashes with Baartz.

Despite some excellent wing play from Blitz, who replaced the sick Fernandez in the 19th minute, and Blue, the best player on the field in the second half, NSW failed to press home their advantage.

Baartz, whose loss of form is puzzling, was the chief culprit, and only he knows how he could have missed two incredible sitters.

NSW, on their second half display, should have scored three more goals, but had to be content with a narrow, colorless victory which satisfied no one.

Despite their defeat, it was easier to single out Victorians than NSW players, most of whom turned in shocking performances.

Particularly outstanding was the elegant Frank Micic, with the incomparable technique, who is in the mould of the fine ball-playing halfbacks who graced the Sydney scene in recent years and are now sadly missing (Blutsch, Tamandl, Mavro, etc.).

Stopper Van Alphen overshadowed Allan Marnoch who was shaky in the second half.

Victoria had only two forwards to speak of: Vojtek and Abonyi, but both have played better.

In a disorganised, lacklustre NSW XI, only two players enhanced their reputations: wingers Blue and Blitz.

Both, in totally different styles, tried to instill some life into the inert NSW attack, but lacked support.

The NSW defence disappointed: it lacked imagination, slamming the ball instead of playing constructively.

...OR SO THEY SAY

"Hakoah has started the season well enough. I sincerely believe this will be Hakoah's year."

(Jim Bayutti in Hakoah News, March 22).

"John Warren will be fit to lead New South Wales against Victoria in the soccer match at Wentworth Park in Sydney tomorrow."

(Australian, March 23).

"NSW soccer captain John Warren is out of the State team to meet Victoria at Wentworth Park tomorrow."

(Herald, March 23).

"Scheinflug was the captain of the Australian side which played North Korea in the World Cup elimination in 1964."

(Telegraph, March 25).

"Inside-right Ray Baartz missed a 'sitter' early in the second half."

(Telegraph, March 25).

"Four of the new players do not speak a word of English and the fifth, Santoro, a shoemaker, has 'half a dozen words'."

(Sun, March 19).

"Then there is soccer, which in Europe, and here too for that matter, is heavily subsidised by big business."

(St. George League official, Sun, March 25).

Don't believe a word of...

ONE-EYED FRED

We may have tossed them on the Kokoda Trail, but I reckon Japan are the best of good things to down Australia at the Sports Ground on Saturday.

Emperor Hirohito can start ordering the saki for the victory celebration now.

On the form shown in last week's interstate fixture, an Australian win would be the greatest form reversal since England declared a national day of mourning when beaten by an American soccer team a few years ago.

In fact, if we win, don't be surprised if FIFA promptly orders a swabbing of our players.

Supporters of the Rising Sun went away from Wentworth Park giggling in their oriental beards.

One honorable gentleman, reportedly from Nagasaki, sought me out after the match.

He said he considered it "Tokyo to a bowl of rice on" that Japan would clip the Aussies' wings.

"We have some old scores to settle," he blandly informed me, "the Emperor still has not forgiven Dawn Fraser for swimming the moat."

"Ah so," I replied coolly. "And we never got our flag back," he said.

"There's also the matter of avenging Fighting Harada's loss to Lionel Rose."

"It was nothing but a dirty imperialist trick allowing Harada to think Rose was a push-over."

"Our gallant team will repay all these indignities," said the boastful Nagasaki gentleman, "we will make

you wish you never invited us."

Not having much time for boastful Japanese from Nagasaki, I'd like to see him proved wrong.

But how can you pick Australia after Sunday's dreary interstate clash?

Here we had the cream of Australia's soccer talent on display.

Only trouble was, it was sour!

Once again, better ground conditions notwithstanding, Corry and Schroif were in more danger of catching a cold than conceding a goal.

The pre-match talk of interstate rivalry held about as much water as has fallen in Victoria in recent months.

Only Blue, who, apparently took an instant dislike to Schroif, and Blitz, showed any real "fire".

"Too much soccer" was the after-match lament of most players, indifferently munching cold chicken and washing it down with beer.

Too much money, I would say. Perhaps the clubs should re-think their bonus systems and start paying their stars on performances, not reputations.

For as long as players can get lucrative retainers and big weekly bonuses on displays as this, you cannot sanely expect them to do one iota better.

I'll bet you 10 yens on that.

— Alan Speers

AUBURN CONFIDENT

When the axe fell on Cumberland last season, Auburn lost no time in staging a complete reorganisation which was an all-round success.

Now back under its own name, financially strong and morally healthy, the club is slowly emerging as one of the strongest in Second Division.

Auburn will field many of last year's players during the competition, together with a few new faces from the district.

Bankstown is another club which is a definite starter in the promotion race.

In the recent New Guinea games, Bankstown had as many as four players in the Combined NSW Second Division side.

If the side can maintain the standard of football played in the second leg of the competition last season its chances are as good as any in the division.

On paper Granville are weaker this year than for several seasons as many players have left the club.

Yet, an air of confidence amongst club officials and players still lingers at MacArthur Park.

Many promising youngsters will make the first team this season and the club may acquire the services of a Newcastle forward.

But whether the side will be strong enough to tackle the premiership and win it remains to be seen.

One thing is certain, however.

Granville will again be one of the teams to beat and an opponent nobody can take lightly.

— Charles Spiteri

Sunday's amateur matches

First Division: Belmore-Ryde, Rudd Park; Lidcombe-Blacktown, Coleman Park; NSW Uni.-South Sydney, D. Phillips Oval; Concordia-Wentworth Waratah, Steele Park; Marrickville-Artarmon, Mackay Park.

Second Division: St. Marys-Kewpies, Ridge Park; Auburn-Riverside, Progress Park; Arncliffe-Scots-Yagoona, O'Neill Park; Warringah - Gympie-NE, Dee Why Oval; Guildford-Penrith, Guildford Oval.

Third Division: Gladesville - Hornsby - Smithfield, Boronia; All Stars-Dee Why, Jones Park; Rovers-Revesby Workers, Loftus Park; Fairfield-Willoughby, Knight Park; Condell Park-West Ryde, Bankstown Showground.

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CRAMER WOULD COME TO AUSTRALIA

Visiting FIFA coach Dettmar Cramer is ready to consider any firm offer to come and work in Australia.

His contract with FIFA, which ties him to a number of Asian countries, will expire in June 1969.

After that, he is free. Reports that he has decided to go to Central America, Africa or back to West Germany are unfounded.

"I always make up my mind about future

plans about December," he told me.

"If the Australian Federation makes me an offer, I will be happy to consider it."

Cramer said he had been approached by the ASF before

"though never with a definite proposition."

"This time I'd like to have a definite, detailed offer," Cramer said.

"I cannot promise that I will accept as I don't know what the

terms and my duties would be.

"But I am certainly most interested."

"I like building new edifices and here, in Australia, the scope is almost as big as it was in Japan."

P.D.

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Soccer in Japan is only 50 years old

Soccer, despite many mistaken beliefs, is no newcomer to Japan.

According to one version it was first demonstrated there by a Lionel Johns, an English teacher at Kogakuryo School, way back in 1874.

By 1917 soccer gained some foothold in Japan and the third Far East Championships were staged in Tokyo, marking Japan's international debut.

In 1921 Japan ventured abroad for the first time, travelling to Shanghai to participate in the fifth Far East championships.

The same year the Japanese Football Association (Nippon Shukyu Kyokai) was established and the country's first championship was also held, in Tokyo.

In 1929 Japan affiliated to FIFA.

Their first taste of big-time soccer arrived in 1936 when Japan sent a team to the Berlin Olympics.

There, to the utter astonishment of the world, they defeated Sweden 3-2 before losing to Italy, the eventual winners, 0-8.

During the war years soccer was not played at all.

In fact, for quite some time after the war soccer was in hibernation — because of an acute shortage of equipment.

For five years after the war, Japan was an outcast in FIFA.

At the 1946 FIFA Congress in Luxembourg it was decided that "... no relations be permitted between Japan or its clubs and other FIFA Associations or their clubs ..."

In June 1950, the FIFA Congress at Rio gave authority to the Executive Committee to review Japan's position and on December 2, 1950, Japan was finally re-admitted to FIFA at a special meeting in Zurich.

When the first Asian Games were held in New Delhi, in 1951, Japan entered — and gained third place.

Between 1952 and 1959 an effort was made to lift the overall standard.

Japan entered the 1954 World Cup. They were favored to win the Asian Group, but lost twice to South Korea at home.

In 1956 Japan took part in the Melbourne Olympics; after beating South Korea, they lost 0-2 to Australia at Olympic Park.

By the time the Rome

Olympics arrived in 1960, Japan was again among the eager would-be qualifiers.

However, the South Koreans — their eternal nemesis — eliminated them.

It was then realised, somewhat belatedly, that without outside aid, Japan's earnest efforts to raise the standards will not bear fruit.

The Japanese FA decided to send president Dr. Nozu to Europe to seek a good, experienced coach.

He asked the German Federation for help — and they promptly recommended Dettmar Cramer.

It was then that the successful association between Cramer and Japan started.

The little German coach went to Japan for 40 days in 1960, returned for a year during 1961-62 and again for 70 days in 1963.

He did nothing spectacular except for one thing, perhaps: he taught the Japanese modern soccer.

But he did more than just coach: he taught the Japanese how to coach themselves, how to put to practical use the skill they acquired.

Before the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, Cramer again went to Japan.

His work bore fruit on October 15, 1964.

Reporting on the Tokyo Olympics on the spot, Max Garrett then wrote:

"Yesterday Japan, one of the world's youngest soccer nations, came triumphantly through its toughest baptism of fire by a sensational, well-deserved 3-2 win against the highly favored Argentinians.

"This was one of the greatest upsets of the Olympic soccer tourney for the past 50 years.

"Those who witnessed it will remember this soccer drama for a long time, because of the almost unparalleled do-or-die determination by the scrupulously fair-playing Japanese.

"They never stopped chasing every ball, nor were they ever disheartened by losing many, through inaccurate passing, and the Argentinians' ability to anticipate most of their moves.

"The South Americans, clearly superior tradesmen, nonchalantly playing their 4-2-4, were leading 2-1 until the 80th minute.

"They considered the show over and were preserving their energy for the next one, slowing down the game wherever they could and only waiting for the final whistle ...

"But although most of their players had run themselves into the ground, the Japanese carried on to attack relentlessly, scoring their decisive goals in the 80th and 82nd minutes and finally grimly resisting the Argentinians' all-out effort

to turn the tide once more. "When it was all over, the man, who elevated Japanese soccer from nowhere to a top-ranking position in Asia in two years, the little German coach Dettmar Cramer, raced on to the field.

"He became immediately engulfed in embraces by all his boys, expressing their joy and gratitude, disregarding their national tradition always to restrain their emotions ..."

GOVERNOR FIRED OVER "KEMARI"

It's not really surprising that the Japanese have a finely developed ball-sense — after all, they have been playing with balls for centuries.

Today it is baseball, soccer, basketball, volleyball and tennis that attracts their attention but in the past it was only one game that really excited them: "Kemari", which they originally called "Mari Koyu".

Kemari was actually football with a difference, dear to Japanese hearts since the Heian era over 1000 years ago.

It was first introduced to Japan by the Chinese and quickly adopted as an "amusing and entertaining game".

It was played by eight players, the object being to kick a slightly oval-shaped ball from one court to another without letting the ball drop.

It is recorded that during a "Kemari party" during the reign of Emperor Daigo (905) eight players kept the ball airborne until the 206th kick.

However, a good average was about 50.

Colorful costumes

Kemari was eventually adopted by the Emperor's Court and participants wore long-sleeved costumes.

Shinto priests and Court officials showed sustained interest in the game which was in turn taken up by the general public in towns and villages.

Most of the traditional rules governing Kemari have survived to this day.

The field was square and at the four corners the Japanese planted, with their love of nature, four trees: willows, cherries, pines and maple.

The ball, a cross between today's soccer ball and rugby ball, was stuffed with deer skin.

The players wore colorful Kemari costumes of various designs — just like today's soccer teams.

Winning in the game was not important; they played it, figuratively, for kicks.

At one stage Japan was swept by a Kemari craze; one provincial Governor loved it so much that he neglected his official duties and was removed.

Today Kemari is only played for recreation or on ceremonial occasions.

Modern sport entered Japan in 1868 with the first arrival of American and British teachers and lecturers.

In 1873 American mathematics teacher Horace Wilson

taught the students of the Kaisei school (today's Tokyo University) the game of baseball which began to spread through the country.

At the Tokyo Naval Academy, British and American officers introduced other sports, including track and field.

Sports-mad

In 1899 at Keio University, a Cambridge lecturer, Edward Clark, showed the students the game of rugby.

Soon after, at the Tokyo Senior Normal School, headmaster Jigoro Kano introduced soccer.

Kano is today regarded as the greatest pioneer of sport in Japan.

Among other things, he transformed the ancient and dangerous game of ju-jitsu into today's judo, a sport of pure skill.

He also founded Japan's most classic judo school, the Kodokan.

Today sport flourishes in Japan to an extent that Australians can't even imagine.

The incredible popularity of sport in Japan is illustrated by the fact that the country has 15 daily sporting newspapers, some with a circulation of close to 1,000,000 copies.

The main bastion of sport are the schools, universities

When Dr. Meisl shook his head

— By PAUL DEAN —

"It's all rather hopeless," the man in the trenchcoat said to me, peering through his glasses, the perfect picture of a myopic.

But he was not myopic at all — in any sense. He was Dr. Willy Meisl, then foreign editor of the illustrious "World Sports" of London and chief foreign correspondent of "Sport" Zurich, "Kicker" Stuttgart, "Dagens Nyheter", Stockholm and other dailies.

We were watching the Australia v. Japan match from the glass panelled press room at Olympic Park, Melbourne, during the 1956 Games.

There was little to enthuse about. The Australian team, in baggy pants and with heavy boots and enormous shinpads, were far too robust for the Japanese.

Now and then a clever, fluid movement could be seen — always from the guests — but the burly Australian defence, led by that fine wing half of the day, Bobby Bignell, brushed them aside with a hard tackle or two.

Bruce Morrow, then with a Newcastle team, was the only Australian whose speed equalled that of the Japanese; finally he managed to outspeed them and score.

"It's terrible football," said Dr. Meisl, "ganz schrecklich ..."

"The Australians are wrestling, not playing; the Japanese are clever, but soft."

"Still, they seem to have the essential ball-sense."

"One day they may pick up strength and stamina and start to rise in the world ..."

This was 12 years ago. Dr. Meisl, now the doyen of the world's soccer writers, no longer lives in London but in Switzerland.

The Australians no longer wear baggy pants and wrestle and the Japanese are no longer soft and weak.

In fact, internationally speaking, both countries have moved ahead with giant strides.

Just by how much, we will see on Saturday.

I only wish Dr. Meisl could be here to witness it.

CAN YOU TELL US?

How many times has Pat Hughes played in a premiership match for APIA?

Okay, we'll ask something simpler.

How many goals has Galambos scored in First Division matches?

Or Watkiss?

How many times did Canterbury beat Hakoah and vice versa?

We put these questions to our colleagues working for the daily newspapers.

Any one of them who answers these correctly will get a \$10 prize from us — as well as public acknowledgement.

However, if we don't get correct answers — or any answers — we will have to assume that they don't know.

We do. After weeks of painstaking research, we have compiled the most complete statistics of today's Sydney soccer.

And we intend to use this during the premiership campaign.

Facts cannot be copyrighted — so we have no means of protecting ourselves against plagiarism which is so popular with some of our colleagues, who, instead of doing the work we have done, simply lift items and data out of our issues.

That's the purpose of this challenge.

If they don't take it up, we will know — and you will know — just why and how they became so well informed all of a sudden.

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A-BOMBED CITY IS NOW SOCCER CITADEL

— By PAUL DEAN —

"Hiroshima, mon amour . . ." this could be the catchcry of the average Japanese soccer fan. For Hiroshima, one of the most tragically war-ravaged cities in the world, is today Japan's flourishing soccer centre.

The reasons are amazingly simple. After the war because of natural resentment towards the Americans, Hiroshima was largely occupied by British troops.

And the British, instead of deepening Japan's old baseball cult, spread the soccer gospel.

The city's leading club is sponsored by a large car factory but right through the city thousands of school-boys keep soccer growing.

Japan's soccer life today is flourishing. A few years ago the average attendance at championship matches was about 600; today in Tokyo it runs to about 8,000.

Since 1965 Japan has had a "national league" with eight teams all from the large industrial areas.

All the teams are sponsored by large industrial combines who have underwritten them against losses.

But, so far, not one yen was required . . .

The players, without exception, are amateurs who may get concessions at work but get no money for playing.

They train four nights a week at the companies' usually modern grounds or stadiums — after work, which in Japan is spread over 60 hours a week.

The country's leading club team at present is Toyo Kogyo, from Hiroshima, three times Japanese champions.

The game is also spreading through schools and universities, gradually cutting large inroads into baseball.

There are several specialised soccer schools in operation, including one of the best known, in Osaka.

International matches draw huge crowds — the 1964 Olympics helped enormously to popularise the game with the crowds.

Attendances of 30,000 or over are common.

For a recent international a Japanese TV station paid \$50,000 for the TV rights.

In 1965 a Japanese team travelled extensively through Europe — Russia, Hungary, Poland, etc. — and played many matches to gain experience.

In 1966 they took part in the Asian Games at Bangkok (see Lou Gautier's story on page 1).

To gauge the tremendous rise in standards, the Japanese like to use the example of the Philippines.

In 1958 at the Asian Games, Japan met the Fili-

pinos and lost to them 1-0.

In 1967, in an international, they beat them 15-0. . . .

Towards the middle of 1967 the crack Brazilian team, Palmeiras of Sao Paulo played three matches against Japan, in Japan.

One of the top six teams in Brazil with a host of

internationals, Palmeiras won the first game 2-0, lost the second 1-2 and won the third, after a solid tussle, 2-1.

The Japanese team to play in Australia has just played a match in Mexico where they went to acclimatise for the Olympics in October.

Jap. team is full of seasoned stars

This is the Japanese party now touring Australia after playing in Mexico where they will return in October for the Olympic finals:

Officials:

FUJITA, Shizuo. Tour leader, Council member of the JFA and president of the Kyoto Football Association.

NAGANUMA, Kenzo. Manager, ex-international, Melbourne Olympics veteran, studied coaching under Dettmar Cramer in Germany in 1962, national team manager since 1963.

OKANO, Shunichiro. Coach, ex-international, studied coaching in Germany in 1961, manager of the team since 1963.

Goalkeepers:

YOKOYAMA, Kenzo. Medium built but with outstanding reflexes. In the national team since 1963, played all four of Japan's matches in the 1964 Olympics. Had great success in Peru and Brazil.

FUNAMOTO, Kehji. Powerfully built, extremely agile. Goalie of Toyo Kogyo, winners of the 1967 Emperor's Cup and champions of the Japan Soccer League in the last three years.

Fullbacks:

MIYAMOTO, Masakatsu. Permanent member of Japan's national team since 1960, extremely powerful, favoring the modern overlap. Fast and possessing a fine shot.

KATAYAMA, Hiroshi. Also a permanent since

1960, a veteran of the Tokyo Olympics. Selected in the 1968 Asian All-Star team.

YAMAGUCHI, Yoshitada. Made his international debut in 1964 at the Olympics. Small but exceptionally quick.

KAMI, Hisao. Plays stopper, first selected in 1964. Rather tall with perfect anticipation; good header.

KAMATA, Mitsuo. Veteran stopper, international since 1959, regular of the team in the 1964 Olympics.

SUZUKI, Ryoza. Another stopper, international since 1962. Fast, strong, Olympic veteran.

KAWANO, Junji. Young, up-and-coming star with a strong tackle. Making his first trip with the international side.

Linkmen:

MORI, Takaji. Extremely clever ball-player, also a dangerous shot. Veteran of the Tokyo Olympics.

TOMISAWA, Kiyoshi. Hard working, steady player, mainly with a defensive flair; international since 1963.

OGI, Aritatsu. International since 1963, "Player of Year" in 1965, Olympic veteran. Chosen for 1968 Asian All-Stars. Great play-maker and also fine shot.

YAGASHI, Shigeo. Oldest player in team and

captain since 1964. Took part in Melbourne Olympics and also in Tokyo Games; very experienced midfielder player.

MIYAMOTO, Teruki. International since 1960, Olympic veteran; all-rounder with excellent control.

Forwards:

WATANABE, Masashi. Fast, elusive winger, international since 1958.

KAMAMOTO Kuni-shige. "Player of Year" in 1966, the team's best goal-getter. Tall but fast, played in Tokyo Olympics and in many other internationals, received and refused pro offers from European and Latin American clubs. All-Asian star of 1967, now studying in Saarbrücken.

KUWAHARA, Yasayuki. Inside-forward, international since 1965, tricky player, fine shot; All-Asian star in 1966.

SUGIYAMA, Ryuichi. Brilliant left-winger, with a seven-year international record; fast and clever. Palmeiras of Brazil have offered him a lucrative pro contract.

MATSUMOTO, Ikuo. Winger, fast, fine ball-player. International since 1963.

KIMURA, Takeo. Winger, rising young star with hard shot.

Tour jobs change hands too often

We don't know if the significance of this hits home at all — but it should.

The manager of the Japanese party, Naganuma Kenza (first names are the surnames) has held his post in the JFA since 1963; coach Okano Shunichiro also since 1963.

Whereas . . .

In Australia this is still largely based on a system of rotation.

These have been our Australian officials for internationals since our return to the FIFA fold in 1964:

Everton tour, 1964: Manager: J. Kelly. Coach: J. Kelly.

Chelsea tour, 1965: Manager: J. Bayutti. Coach: T. Jelisavcic.

Tour of Asia, 1965: Managers: Jim Bayutti and Ian Brusasco. Coach: T. Jelisavcic.

Roma tour, 1966: Manager: F. Parsons. Coach: J. Marston.

Scotland tour, 1967: Manager: J. Bayutti. Coach: J. Venglos.

Tour of Asia, 1967: Managers: John Barclay and Jim Connell. Coach: Joe Vlasits.

And finally:

Japan tour: Manager: John Barclay. Coach: Joe Vlasits.

SYDNEY PROGRAM

THIS WEEKEND

Saturday, March 30

Australia v. Japan — Sportsground, 3.00 p.m.

Sunday, March 31

AUSTRALIA CUP

Prague v. Latrobe (Qld.) — Marks Field, 3.00 p.m.

NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday, April 6

Manly v. Melita Eagles — Graham Reserve
St. George v. South Coast — Marks Field
North Sydney-Inter v. Sutherland — North Sydney Oval
Hornsby-NE v. Western Suburbs — Pennant Hills Oval
Auburn v. North Bankstown — Mona Park

Sunday, April 7

Pan Hellenic v. Croatia — Wentworth Park
Polonia v. Prague — North Sydney Oval
Yugal v. APIA — Marks Field
Canterbury v. Hakoah — Arlington Oval
Balgownie v. Corinthians — Balgownie Oval
Bankstown v. Granville — Bankstown Soccer Centre
Lane Cove v. Marconi — Pottery Green

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Sat., March 30: Trial Games.. — Evening:
Guest artist: Hal Fenner Dancing to 1 a.m.
Sun., March 31: Bankstown Utd. v. Canterbury
(main game 3 p.m.). — Smoko 10 a.m.

— Members' information only —

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'68 Annual

The 1968 SOCCER WORLD ANNUAL is now available.

It will be on sale at the Sydney Sportsground on Saturday.

This is the most comprehensive annual we have ever published — from the NSW angle.

Each Sydney First Division club is featured over a full page with the team photo and club emblem.

For the first time we publish many new and fascinating facets on NSW soccer — exclusively compiled by our staff.

We have also considerably enlarged the overseas section, giving Australian fans a comprehensive guide to soccer around the world.

The Annual will also be on sale the following weeks at major grounds.

It will not be on sale at newsagents.

The price has remained 40c.

If you order it by mail the cost is 48 cents.

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Most were at Games

Sixteen of the 20 Japanese players visiting Australia were members of Japan's squad at the 1966 Asian Games.

The four who didn't go to Bangkok are defenders Mitsuo Kamata and Junji Kawano and linkmen Takaji Mori and Kiyoshi Tomisawa.

Japan had a 17-man squad at the Asian Games 16 months ago.

Halfback Kazuo Imanishi is the only player in the Asian Games squad who is not in the current touring party.

This is how Japan lined up in their semifinal against Iran (0-1) at the Games at Bangkok's Main Stadium on December 18, 1966: Yokoyama; Katayama, Yamaguchi; Suzuki, Imanishi, Ogi; Watanabe, Kuwahara, Kamamoto, Miyamoto, Sugiyama.

— Lou Gautier

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ROUND THE WORLD

Asian Champions' Cup

This year's Asian Champions' Cup will attract far more entries than last year when only Israel and Malaysia entered club teams (Hapoel Tel Aviv beat Sengalore in the only match played in the series). So far Iran, Israel, Malaysia, Thailand, Hong Kong, Japan, Indonesia, India, Burma and Singapore have already lodged their entries at the Asian Confederation's Penang (Malaysia) headquarters.

Yugoslav goalie for Celtic?

The sensational news from Glasgow is that Celtic may replace veteran goalkeeper, Ronnie Simpson, next season. This in itself wouldn't be very surprising, but all Glasgow is agog with rumors that Celtic may engage a Continental player for the job. The hot tip, though manager Jock Stein isn't talking, is that the new goalie will be a Yugoslav: either Ilija Pantelic (Vojvodina) or Slatko Skorac (Dynamo Zagreb). Both impressed Stein in recent matches against Celtic.

Tough on German coaches

Only seven coaches will retain their positions in the West German Bundesliga next season: Merkel (FC Nurnberg), Wesweiler (Moenchengladbach), Langner (Werder Bremen), Pfeifer (Aachen), Brocker (Schalke) and Baumann (VfB Stuttgart).

Europe's best — Polish style

The Polish bi-weekly SPORTOWIEC selected the following team as the best in Europe at the moment: Banks (England), Gemmel (Scotland), Moore (England), Kurtsilava (USSR), Facchetti (Italy), Beckenbauer (West Germany), Charlton (England), Johnstone (Scotland), Albert (Hungary), Eusebio (Portugal), Farkas (Hungary).

Matthews out for good?

Stanley Matthews is reported to be retiring from soccer for good. According to "The People" Matthews will quit as manager of Port Vale, recently convicted of improper practices. The London newspaper also claims that Matthews will retire to a country estate and never set foot on a soccer ground again — even as a spectator.

Coach quits Atletico

Otto Gloria, Atletico Madrid's famous Brazilian coach resigned after his team's home defeat to Zaragoza. The former Benfica and Portuguese national team manager is likely to return to Brazil. He has received tempting offers from Bangu and Bonsucesso of Rio.

German admission fees reduced

Not all West German Bundesliga clubs are drawing good gates. To offset falling attendances — down 18 per cent over the last two seasons — Munchen 1860, Duisburg and Moenchengladbach have reduced admission charges by 40 per cent. Fans will now be able to watch their games for a paltry 30 cents on the outer terraces.



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2KY ITALIAN MELODIES
Every Thursday 6.15 p.m. **2KY**

The draw for the European Champions' Cup is: Real Madrid (Spain) v. Manchester United (England) and Benfica (Portugal) v. Juventus (Italy). The draw for the semis of the Cup-Winners' Cup is: Hamburger SV (W. Germany) v. Torpedo Moscow (USSR) or Cardiff City (Wales) and Bayern Munchen (W. Germany) v. Milan AC (Italy).

Yugoslavs can advertise

Yugoslav players can now carry advertising on their jerseys. Dinamo Zagreb were the first to avail themselves of this new found freedom. Last week their players advertised dairy products on the back of their jumpers. Dinamo were paid \$1,400 by the firm, which is not State-run. A different company will advertise at each Dinamo home match.

Drunken referees suspended

The Hungarian FA last week took the unprecedented step of suspending two referees for life. The referees, Imre Novak and Istvan Toth were found guilty of drunkenness before a match.

● The French national team played a 1-1 draw with Torino in a sparring match at Nice. France meets Yugoslavia in Marseille on Saturday week in a European Championship quarterfinal. Yugoslavia in the meanwhile played a 3-3 draw in Belgrade against a combined Sofia (Bulgaria) XI.

● East Germany defeated Zagreb, the Yugoslav team, 3-1 in a friendly match at Rijeka.

● Eusebio became the father of a baby girl a few hours before Benfica's European Cup match against Vasas-Budapest in Lisbon. To celebrate the happy event the Portuguese ace scored two of the three goals in Benfica's 3-0 victory.

● In the South American Champions' Cup, Penarol Montevideo (Uruguay) beat Deportivo Portogues (Venezuela) 3-0 and Universidad Catolica (Chile) defeated Guarani (Paraguay) 4-0.

● Morocco and Algeria played a 0-0 draw in their traditional annual international at Casablanca.

● The famous former Yugoslav international, Stefan Bobek, won't coach the West German FC Koln after all. Bobek, one of Europe's best midfield players in the early 1950's, has re-signed with Partizan Belgrade for five years.

● Benfica have made a big offer for Porto's international forward, Artur Jorge. Eusebio is reported to be clamoring for Jorge to play alongside him.

● AC Milan's German international fullback, Schnellinger has been suspended for the first time in his career. He was outed for a match for punching a Cagliari opponent.

● Austria beat West Germany 2-0 in an amateur international at Grieskirchen, Austria.

● Inter Milan were sixty years old on March 9. They were founded in 1908.

● Chilean First and Second Division players went on a 24-hour strike last week for higher wages and better overall conditions.

● AS Roma have transferred their Spanish forward Peiro to Varese.

● Horst Szymanski, the West German international halfback, is back home after an unhappy stint with the Kansas City club in the USA.

● Wembley is already sold out for next Wednesday's European Championship quarterfinal match between England and Spain.

● Vava, Brazil's centre-forward when they won the World Cup in 1958 and 1962, has rejected an offer to play for the Los Angeles Toros. He will remain with America Mexico where he earns \$900 a month.

● Milan AC were fined \$2,000 by the Italian FA for unruly behaviour by their supporters during the recent match against Cagliari.

● Waterford, Dundalk, Celtic, Shamrock Rovers and Drogheda are fighting it out for the Irish championship. Only two points separate the leader, Waterford, from equal fourth-placed Shamrock Rovers and Drogheda.

● Trakia, the reigning Bulgarian champions, have been forced to play their home matches on neutral grounds for the next four months. The stiff penalty was imposed when spectators invaded the pitch at three consecutive home fixtures last month.

● Jeunesse won the Luxembourg championship for the second consecutive year. They have a six-point lead with two rounds remaining.

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HUNGARIAN CROWDS TAKE TUMBLE

Attendances in Hungary since the start of the new season four weeks ago have slumped. Even Ferencvaros, by far the top drawing team in the country, have been hard hit and have only averaged 10,000 spectators in recent home matches. Most of the other games have been attracting only between 3,000 and 6,000 spectators. None of the first three rounds totalled more than 55,000 people. In past seasons this was the attendance for every Ferencvaros home match at Budapest's Nepszadion.

REAL STAR SUSPENDED

Real Madrid's star forward, Amancio, won't play again in the European Cup this year. The fiery Spaniard was sent off against Sparta Prague in the return European Cup quarterfinal match a fortnight ago when he disputed the referee's decision concerning Sparta's second goal. In the melee that followed it was alleged Amancio either pushed or punched the referee. The UEFA has barred him from further European Cup matches until a full-scale inquiry is held in six weeks.

SCOREBOARD

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING

ROUND: Israel v. Ceylon 4-0 (Israel qualified for Mexico with 11-0 aggregate win).

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP

Sparta Prague v. Real Madrid 2-1 (Real qualified for semifinals on 4-2 aggregate); Juventus v. Braunschweig 1-0 (play-off match at Berne).

EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP

Hamburger SV v. Lyon 2-0 (play-off at Hamburg); Milan AC v. Standard Liege 2-0 (play-off at Milan); Torpedo Moscow v. Cardiff City 1-0 (at Tashkent. Play-off necessary); Bayern Munchen v. Valencia 1-0 (Bayern qualified for semifinals on 2-1 aggregate).

AUSTRIA: LASK v. Vienna

3-1; Sturm Graz v. Admira 2-2; Salzburg v. Eisenstadt 3-0; FK Austria v. Klagenfurt 9-0; Rapid v. Bregenz 6-0; Innsbruck v. Graz AK 2-1; Radentheim v. Sportklub 4-2. **Table:** Rapid 28; FK Austria 27; Innsbruck 23; GAK 21; Sportklub 20.

BELGIUM: Beveren Waas

v. Racing White 0-2; Malines v. Lierse 4-0; Bruges v. Anderlecht 2-2; Daring v. Waregem 1-1; Standard Liege v. Beerschot 2-0; St. Trond v. FC Liege 2-0; Antwerp v. Charleroi SC 0-0; Olympique Charleroi v. Beringen 3-2. **Table:** Anderlecht 38; FC Bruges 35; Standard Liege 31; Waregem, St. Trond 26.

BULGARIA: CSKA v. Slavia

Sofia 1-1; Lokomotiva Sofia v. Levski 3-1; Lokomotiva Plovdiv v. Dobroudja 3-1; Beroe v. Slivene 3-0; Botev Vratza v. Trakia 3-1; Miners v. Maritza 3-1; Botev Burgas v. Cernomare 1-0; Spartak Sofia v. Spartak Plevne 2-1. **Table:** CSKA, Levski 28; Lokomotiva Sofia 27; Miners 21; Trakia, Spartak Sofia 20.

EAST GERMANY: Wismut

v. Zwickau 0-1; Union Berlin v. Jena 0-0; Magdeburg v. Vorwaerts Berlin 3-1; Dresden v. Rostock 0-1; Stendal v. Karlmarxstadt 0-1; Erfurt v. Lokomotive Leipzig 0-3; Chemie Leipzig v. Chemie Halle 1-0. **Table:** Jena 26; Magdeburg 24; Rostock 23; Lokomotive Leipzig 19.

FRANCE: Nice v. Red

Star 2-1; Aix v. Nantes 2-6; Ajaccio v. St. Etienne 1-1; Rennes v. Valenciennes 1-1; Angers v. Marseille 2-2; Sochaux v. Monaco 0-0; Sedan v. Metz 3-0; Rouen v. Bordeaux 3-0; Lille v. Strasbourg 0-0. **Table:** St. Etienne 40; Marseille 32; Sochaux, Bordeaux 31; Sedan 30.

GREECE: Apollon v. Ethnikos

0-4; Vyazas v. Aris Salonika 0-0; Panathinaikos v.

Verroia 1-0; Panionios v.

Panelefsinaikos 1-0; Panseraikos v. Egaleo 2-0; PAOK v. Olympiakos 1-0; Pierikos v. Volos 1-1; Prodeftiki v. Iraklis 1-1; AEK v. Olympiakos Cyprus 1-1.

HUNGARY: Ujpest v. Tabanya

1-0; Egyetertes v. Csepel 1-0; Szombathely v. Salgotarjan 1-0; Szeged v. MTK 2-1; Vasas v. Diosgyor 3-0; Gyor v. Honved 0-0; Ferencvaros v. Pees 4-1; Dunajvaros v. Videoton 3-0. **Table:** Ujpest 6; Honved, Ferencvaros, Szeged 5; Egyetertes, Vasas, Szombathely 4.

ITALY: Atalanta v. Milan

AC 0-3; Bologna v. Torino 2-0; Brescia v. Varese 0-1; Cagliari v. AS Roma 1-2; Inter Milan v. Fiorentina 3-1; Juventus v. Vicenza 1-0; Mantova v. Napoli 0-1; Sampdoria v. Spal 1-0. **Table:** Milan AC 38; Napoli, Torino, Varese 30; Inter Milan 29; Fiorentina 28.

PORTUGAL (Cup): Sanjoanense v. Benfica

1-2; Academica v. Setubal 0-1; Covilha v. Porto 0-4; Braga v. Belenenses 0-2.

SPAIN: Bilbao v. Las Palmas

0-1; Pontevedra v. Barcelona 1-0; Espanol v. Atletico Madrid 0-1; Real Madrid v. Elche 2-0; Real Sociedad v. Betis 1-0; Sevilla v. Sabadell 1-0; Malaga v. Cordoba 0-1; Zaragoza v. Valencia 0-0. **Table:** Real Madrid 37; Barcelona 34; Valencia, Las Palmas, Atletico Madrid 30.

SWITZERLAND: Chaux-de-Fonds v. Bellinzona

(postponed); Grenchen v. Basel 0-1; Lausanne v. Young Boys 2-2; Lugano v. Lucerne 6-1; Sion v. Biel 1-3; Young Fellows v. Servette Geneva 0-3; FC Zurich v. Grasshoppers 1-0.

WEST GERMANY: Bayern

Munchen v. Braunschweig 3-0; Hanover 96 v. Munchen 1860 1-2; Borussia Dortmund v. Moenchengladbach 3-1; Duisburg v. VfB Stuttgart 3-3; Karlsruhe v. Eintracht Frankfurt 0-1; FC Nurnberg v. Werder Bremen 0-0; Neunkirchen v. Hamburger SV 0-3; Kaiserslautern v. FC Koln 2-1; Alemannia Aachen v. Schalke 04 2-1. **Table:** FC Nurnberg 37; Bayern Munchen, Werder Bremen, Moenchengladbach 32; FC Koln 30.

YUGOSLAVIA: OFK Belgrade

v. Partizan Belgrade 1-1; Dinamo Zagreb v. Hajduk Split 0-0; Zveznicar v. Proleter 6-1; Rijeka v. Velez 1-1; Radnicki v. Vardar 0-0; Maribor v. Zagreb 2-0; Vojvodina v. Sarajevo 2-0; Red Star Belgrade v. Olimpija 6-1.

MANY CHANGES LIKELY IN VIC. TEAMS SOON

— From BOB LOW —

Despite some activity on the local and interstate markets in players transfers and a considerable number of new imports, a complete eleven of seasoned campaigners have had "up for sale" tags opposite their names for some time without any result.

The players left out in the cold include:

● Duncan McKay, the highly rated Croatia defender who was for many years a regular first team player with Glasgow Celtic and represented Scotland in under-23 and full internationals. Still only 29, he has a \$4,000 fee opposite his name and is keen to move to Sydney.

● Frank Stoffels, the former Wilhelmina and Box Hill centre-forward who has been two years with Melbourne, and who, in 1967, with some vital goals, played a leading part in his side's State League title win and Australia Cup success. Stoffels is quoted at \$1,500.

● Tommy McPherson, the Scottish-born wing-half of George Cross who was a regular for three years with the Maltese side and played a leading part in their 1964 Australia Cup win and their 1965 Ampol Cup success. George Cross want \$2,200 for him.

● Charlie McCorquodale, a left-winger or inside-forward, was a regular with Slavia for four years until he fell out of favor last season. He played with Dumbarton and Montrose in the Scottish Second Division before coming to Australia.

● Zdonmir Rasic was a top player in Yugoslavia before joining JUST about six years ago. He played many times for Victoria before returning to Europe. On his return here, he had a spell as a player with Yugal and late last season returned to JUST as coach before being displaced recently by Cedo Cirkovic. Fee required: \$500.

● Marcus Clarke comes from Northern Ireland and played several first team games at wing half and full back for Melbourne last year. A sum of \$750 on his head.

● Frank McCann played with top Glasgow junior professional club Dennistoun Waverley before join-

ing Melbourne nearly three years ago. Played in Australia Cup last year. A forward, he is also listed at \$750.

● Dicky Bell, a forward who was on Partick Thistle's books and played quite a number of first team games for Slavia.

● Ronnie Prior who succeeded Nigel Shepherd at right back for Slavia then lost his place after half a season. A former Ayrshire player.

Although the outlook for many of these players is not bright at the moment, one can be reasonably sure that once the State League swings into action and clubs get a bit desperate after a few reverses, the majority of those mentioned will be in new colors before the transfer deadline in June.

These are so far the local and interstate signings:

● Frank Micic, who gave eight years of great service to JUST and is the most capped amongst the current crop of players, moved for a reported \$7,000 fee to Hellas.

● Tommy McCall moved at a considerable fee from Juventus-Adelaide to Juventus-Melbourne, quickly gained representation by Victoria and is again included in the Australian squad. Scottish-born, he was at one time on the books of Chelsea.

● David High, a former England youth international played with Reading for several years before joining Slavia and soon established himself in the Victorian team. Moved to Hellas at a considerable fee.

● Frank Barbazza made his senior debut for Juventus almost 11 years ago and since then, except for brief spells through injury and a trip to Italy, has been a regular at either centre-forward or on the wing. Joined JUST.

● George Cairns was one of the few stars of Makedonia which toppled back into the First Division after only one year in the

State League. A centre-half, he comes from Edinburgh, and is now with George Cross.

● Ian Currie is another ex-Makedonia player of 1967 and was secured early in that season from Croatia. A centre-forward, he scored a barrowload of goals for Croatia in three seasons and last year hit home almost half the Makedonia total of 27. Now with Juventus.

These are the most significant imports:

● Alan Reed, a wing half or fullback who spent three years with Tottenham and later saw service with non-league side Romford. A capture for Slavia.

● Bobby Thomson has a wealth of First Division experience both in Scotland and England behind him with Partick Thistle, Liverpool and Luton Town at fullback. Should be a tremendous asset to the promoted Wilhelmina.

● Tadeus Kraus is the most honored of all the imports and has joined Slavia. Played many years with Slovan Bratislava and represented Czechoslovakia many times in attack. In the veteran stage, once he gets fully tuned up, he should bring some class into the Slavia attack.

● Nick McCallum has just arrived with a big reputation as a goalscorer for George Cross. Played with Scottish Highland League club, Inverness Thistle.

These are the players still expected:

● Jim Tallis, a 22-year-old right-winger who has played with Ipswich Town and Alloa Athletic. Joining Slavia.

● Jimmy Rooney, another 22-year-old and inside-forward who played in Peterborough first team and Montrose. Joins Lions.

● Jimmy Smart, another player earmarked to arrive for Lions. Played with Morton, had a spell with Chelsea and toured Australia with the "Pensioners." A forward, Smart is 22.

Mazzina gains coaching ticket

While back in Argentina on a mission for APIA, their coach Mike Mazzina passed the tough Argentinian coaching examination.

For the past two years, he had been studying for it in Sydney.

The coaching "ticket" admits Mazzina to the AFTA, that country's coaches' association, as a "tecnico."

This is also recognised by FIFA countries the world over.

Mazzina also brought back news of the ex-Sydney based Argentinians.

● Isaac is now building his own house — but is keen to return for a second stint in Australia.

● Rivero is playing very well with a First Division team in provincial Mendoza.

● Bischoff is in top form with Argentinos de Quilmes in Division I/B. The activities and where-

abouts of Rodriguez, Here-dia and Puig are unknown.

Mazzina also elaborated on the background of the five Argentinian players he had brought with him for APIA.

● Norberto Di Lonardo is 22, from Rosario Central (Div. I), and plays either at stopper or left-half.

● Juan Jose Sileoni is 22, from Huracan, First Division and plays inside or outside left.

● Armando Tedesco, 24, from Sarmiento de Junin, (Div. I/B), right half or inside right.

● Carlos Bregante, 26, from Universidad Mexico, inside left.

● Juli Santoro, 25, from Leandro N. Alem, outside right or centre-forward.

— Paul Dean

NEW BLOOD FOR S.A. TEAM'S REVENGE BID

— From ALLAN CRISP —

SA coach, Edmund Kreft, is confident that his team will avenge their 3-5 loss to Victoria when the return game is played in Adelaide on Anzac Day.

Kreft blamed inadequate preparation as a major reason for SA's failure.

"We had time for only two training sessions before going to Melbourne and this is not enough for any team," said Kreft.

"We have time to prepare for the return game and I'm sure we can win."

The original SA squad has been bolstered by the addition of seven outstanding young players.

The youngsters, all of whom showed consistent form during the Ampol series, are: Mitia Marusic, Doug Travar, John Besir (Beograd), Maryan, Henry Kolecki (Polonia), "Bugsy" Nyskohus, Colin Murray (USC Lion).

The initial squad members have been retained including those who could not go to Melbourne due to injuries or business.

Giovanni Meneghetti (Juventus), John Lovell (Lion), Willy Slager (Cro-

atia), Elio Marusic (Hellas), Cyril Heppenstall (Polonia) and Wally Fedy-czynsyn (Lion), withdrew from the squad last time.

Kreft, who has been appointed SA coach for both games against Victoria, is a strong advocate for increased interstate competition.

"Our club standard will not improve until we have a powerful and successful state team," he told "SOCCER WORLD."

"Now that a squad has been formed, we should play as many games as possible against other States as well as against top class club teams from Sydney and Melbourne."

Kreft, who "lived in Dettmar Cramer's pocket" during the FIFA representative's Adelaide visit, said that Cramer agreed with him that the formula for a successful State team was to play under match conditions as often as possible.

After deluge, Hakoah win

From BOB LOW in Melbourne

Hakoah won the Inter-City Ampol Cup last Friday night at Olympic Park, Melbourne when they defeated Croatia 3-2 after extra time in one of the most fantastic matches ever seen in Victoria.

Until 28 minutes of the second half, Croatia were leading 1-0 and looked slightly the better of two sides.

At this stage the heavens opened up and Melbourne, which had been drought-stricken for so long, got a kingsize dose for 10 minutes of the heaviest rain which has been seen for many a long day.

It was no exaggeration to say that Olympic Park closely resembled Albert Park lake and referee Jack Greenwood called it a halt because the line markings were no longer visible.

However, it was announced that the game had only been suspended and would be resumed once the torrents abated.

The rain did stop and referee Greenwood resumed the match after a 10-minute break although the line markings were still well under water.

The game should never have been resumed. From then on until the end of extra time which was needed to settle the issue, the players of both sides splashed and paddled around in a game of "lucky dip" soccer which looked more like water polo.

The game had a damper on it even from the kick-off due to the fact that publicity was too late in being released; as a result, fewer than 3,000 turned up.

Neither team was particularly impressive in the first half where Fuzes was the busier keeper and Croatia through Glaser missed a golden opportunity.

However, the home team went to the front two minutes later when a left-wing cross-cum-shot from Jim McKay on the left wing struck the crossbar and from the rebound McMeehan blasted the ball home.

On resumption, Hakoah had taken off Hillsdon, brought in Keddie and rearranged their side.

Keddie was soon in the limelight when he made Kovacek look lively with a couple of snap shots which tested the Croatia goalie.

Then came the suspension of play for 10 minutes.

On the restart, Hakoah who had a physical advantage, looked much more dangerous than they had done under normal conditions and the Sydney side almost levelled the game when Barnett sent in a flashing header from a Gardiner free-kick.

In the 84th minute Hakoah did get on level terms when Stewart, who had moved up in attack, scored.

The goal was only allowed after the referee had consulted a linesman.

But there can be no doubt it was a perfectly legitimate goal despite some appeals for offside.

In extra-time Ray Baartz scored a picture goal with a 20-yard grounder; Billy Vojtek equalised and near the end Hakoah got the goal which gave them victory when a Croatia defender put through his own goal.

Croatia: Kovacek, Friganovic, Gunn, Rau, Bot, McArthur, McIntyre, McMeechan, Vojtek, J. McKay, Glaser.

Hakoah: Fuzes, Stewart, Hillsdon, Gardiner, Marnoch, Yaager, Edmunds, Fekete, Barnett, Baartz, Jones (Keddie replaced Hillsdon).

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DROUGHT PLAYS HAVOC WITH CUP SCHEDULES

Victoria's drought and their earlier league season start have thrown WA Hellas' Australia Cup plans into the melting pot.

SA secretary, Len Willmer, has had difficulty in completing arrangements.

He has suggested to SM Hellas that Azzurri should play WA Hellas in Adelaide on Easter Saturday with the winner playing in Melbourne on Easter Monday.

Hellas qualified as SA's No. 2 team by defeating Polonia 2-1 last Friday night.

Hellas must now play Azzurri of Perth in Adelaide for the right to play SM Hellas in Melbourne.

This may not be acceptable because the fixture could clash with the second round of the Victorian league season.

If it does, this problem and the added ground

problem caused by Melbourne's drought, could be solved by playing both games in Adelaide.

The ideal set-up would then be to have Azzurri play WA Hellas on a Friday night with the winners meeting SM Hellas on Saturday or Sunday.

The date for the second Australia Cup elimination game between Juventus and Beograd is also in the clouds.

Melbourne Croatia, who must play the winners before the end of April, have indicated that they would be willing to play the tie in Adelaide although they have the right to play in Melbourne. A.C.

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Exclusive interview with Dettmar Cramer

HE IS MODERN SOCCER'S CONSULTING SPECIALIST

He is small, almost fragile, with a dark complexion you would sooner associate with a Spaniard than a German.

His eyes, clear and steely, almost pierce you; they have a hypnotic quality, those of a man possessed.

Dettmar Cramer is a man possessed; possessed with love of soccer.

He is not a humorous man, not one for the bon mot, at least not when he talks about soccer.

Rather, he is a Billy Graham, a missionary, a zealot in the honorable sense of the word, a man who dreams, talks, eats, preaches, teaches and organises soccer.

Exactly the man Australia needs. He could be, given a free hand for two or three years, our short cut to modernisation, growth and success.

Some people say he is "only a coach". But Cramer is a great deal more; he is also a brilliant administrator, organiser, teacher, a man who is thoroughly familiar with the structure of soccer at any level from schools to clubs to districts through to associations and even FIFA.

Without any doubt, I rate him alongside of Sir Stanley Rous or Helmut Kaser as the great soccer men of our time.

Cramer talks freely, uninhibited, answering questions without hesitation and without apologies.

The following interview will bear this out.

Break-through

You spent a long time in Japan and engineered major changes. What did you find there at first?

"Soccer existed, of course, at a primitive, rather embryonic level. My job was first to introduce modern coaching methods for juniors and seniors alike.

"But my really tough job was in 1964 when I was invited by the Japanese Olympic Committee to prepare their team for the Olympics.

"It was during that period that I managed a break-through".

Not a yen

What did Japanese soccer have in 1964?

"Extremely little. There was no soccer played under the age of 15 or above the age of 22, apart from a handful of exceptions.

"It was only known to high school boys and university students.

"The Association, as such, was poor; not a yen at their disposal.

"The Council members, president, secretary and all the others were university professors.

"The president was an eminent physician who used to do the administrative work of the association at night, typing out letters and circulars until dawn.

"They didn't have even an office."

What about today?

"Well, they have a smooth administration today with a fulltime secretary, nice offices, everything. The game is played in primary schools where I was told it could 'never be introduced', and

also outside universities. In fact, the backbone of their soccer is now the large industrial enterprises."

Companies help

Are these companies putting money into the game?

"No, but they are doing many other things. They provide excellent facilities and amenities for their teams, employ the players, equip them and pay the coaches.

"The teams carry the company names. In return, they are also indemnified against losses — but these have not yet occurred."

Food problem

How were the companies induced to do all this?

"Gradually, of course; one first, then another. Today they are most co-operative, especially when the interests of the national team are at stake.

"Give you an example. When I selected the original squad of 40 for my team in 1964 I found that they lived all over Japan, in many cities.

"I just had to have all the players together for a few months. So I travelled all over Japan, spending days just to see general managers and chairmen of the companies who employed these players.

"Eventually I managed to have all the players transferred to the Tokyo branches of the various firms, so that we could train together.

"Then food became a problem. The average Japanese diet, based on rice and raw fish, provides less than 1500 calories a day. I worked out that for the kind of work I had in mind, the players had to have at least 4,000 calories daily.

"They couldn't afford to pay for this as it would have cost them about \$5 daily just for food — more than they earned all day.

"So I went to many large manufacturing companies, explained the problem and asked for help.

"The result was that the players were supplied, for months, with free food — meat, butter, cheese, vegetables, fruit, milk, etc. — providing the necessary caloric values.

"Meanwhile, the players had to really work at their jobs, longer hours than in Australia, yet we trained four nights a week.

"Another concession they had was that they were all given company apartments in Tokyo for themselves and their families.

"I think the result at the Olympics, where we beat Argentina 3-2, proved that I was on the right track."

National game

What future has soccer in Japan?

"I think it's well on the way to replace baseball as the national game.

"The Japanese have an infinite capacity to dedicate themselves to any given task and work until they succeed.

"Now that their interest has been aroused in soccer, the sky is the limit for their ambitions and achievements."

Solid background

You, as a coach, must have certain firm ideas on just what a coach should be like, who makes a good coach?

"Yes, of course. I have very definite ideas. First of all a coach must be a more than average ex-player; not necessarily world famous but with a good, solid background.

"The best coaches come from the ranks of players who were the 'thinking types', not the intuitive ones.

"That is why Herrera, Hidgkuti, Guttman, Merkel, Cajkovski and the others are so successful.

"To illustrate the point further, it's not certain at all that Pele would be a 'good coach; most of the things he does on the field are automatic, intuitive, improvised.

"A coach must know what has to be done and how; not just feel it in his bones.

"Also, a coach must be fit, not fat. He must not only tell his players from the sideline what they do wrong — but show it to them.

"That's why it's so terribly important that he should have been a good ex-player.

"I saw Herrera many times train Inter Milan and grab, say, Suarez, for some private practice.

"He would show him what he was doing wrong — and show him the right way. You could hear Herrera saying to him, 'not like that, Luis, like this' — and the player would watch and learn and finally get the point.

"Even Suarez who, as we know, is one of the world's finest."

Right "image"

Have you any experience in coaches organisations?

"I hope I do. For some 10 years now I have been the president of the West German coaches associations; I have held courses, lectures, demonstrations.

"All the current coaches operating in Germany passed through my examinations.

"So I have some experience in this field. I like a coaches organisation to be an efficient, tight body, and not necessarily big.

"You don't make everybody a coach just because for some reason he is keen to become one; you make sure he is fully qualified to teach.

"If he is not, God help those he is coaching.

"A few years ago in India I discovered that in order to popularise coaching, they were handing out certificates left and right.

"As a result, their organisation had no respect in the soccer community.

"I told them they would be much better off inviting their 10 best recently retired players to be coaches.

"They would have the reputation in the soccer community and would be able to create the right 'image'."

Talented Indians

Did you find the Indians talented players?

"Extremely so. I would say they have more natural

ability with the ball than any other Asian nation. In fact, I would say they are in the Brazilian class where pure skill is concerned.

"But they also have serious shortcomings. They are not strong enough, not dedicated enough.

"Also, under pressure they are apt to fold up. If they learned to fight as well as play, they would be tremendous."

Asians improving

What about the Africans?

"There are so many races there and so many different conditions that you can't talk of Africa as a unit.

"But the African Negro is immensely talented, learns rapidly and makes an excellent soccer player.

"In fact, they have more natural talent than either the Europeans or the Asians."

What about the other Asians?

"Everywhere there is progress, growing interest and improving standards. I am certain that in the years to come they will be a very considerable force to reckon with."

"Stone-age"

You have been here more than three weeks; have you formed any early opinions on Australian soccer?

"Quite a few. I was not very impressed with the first NSW v. Victoria match and said it was 'stone-age football'.

"It was just that — terrible. And this had nothing to do with the surface of the ground or the heat. The players just didn't play modern soccer.

"They give a pass and stop, feeling their job is done, instead of running on and perhaps getting it back again.

"Soccer must be played much more fluidly today.

"On the other hand, I was very impressed by a bunch of young lads one night, at Manly; they were about 14 or so.

"Everybody knows I am not a flatterer so perhaps you believe me if I say that they showed more basic skill and potential than a similar group would in Germany.

"I also liked your State squad which I trained one night; they were responsive and skilled so I cannot understand why they played so badly in Melbourne.

"And I liked your Showground's turf — man, what beautiful grass."

Administration

Any other impressions in Australia?

"It seems that not everything is quite right with your administration of the game. But I don't know what is actually wrong, I haven't been here long enough for that.

— By PAUL DEAN —

"Yet everywhere I go officials and others are full of complaints. At times they sit in my hotel room till 2 a.m. explaining their problems — and the shortcomings of others.

"I have also read Paul Dean's article on the ASF and found it most impressive.

"I asked a leading ASF official and he verified most of the things in the article."

Reorganisation

Would you say the administration can be improved?

"Of course, nothing surer. All you have to do is do it. I have studied McAndrew's plans for the reorganisation of the ASF's structure.

"Grand plan, really fine. But why hasn't something been done about it already?

"Your officials must understand one thing: if soccer's image improves, so does theirs. If soccer grows, so do they.

"Reforms should frighten only the deadwood, not the really progressive officials; after all, a booming soccer would need more, not less officials."

England's example

Would you say that administration was our most urgent need?

"No. I suggest you start building up a really strong national team — that will get your game the right 'public image'.

"That team will do a lot of work for your code and its reforms.

"Get the 40 best players, make an 'A' and a 'B' team and have some youngsters added to it.

"Bring them together as often as possible, train them hard, give them as many matches as you can.

"Take them away on tours, even if this costs you money.

"There is no reason why you couldn't even go to Europe with them.

"Once you have such a team — a real team — interest in soccer will automatically grow.

World Cup

Is Australia ready for the World Cup?

"This you must know better than I. But I say this: if you can beat Japan — and I think you can, even in Tokyo — there is no reason why you couldn't also beat North Korea.

"And if you do that, you will go to Mexico for the 1970 World Cup.

"Now, that in itself will generate immense interest and goodwill.

"Once in Mexico, if you can beat only one team in your group, like the North Koreans did in 1966, you have done very well.

"Believe me, results like this would focus so much attention on soccer that you would be embarrassed.

"To put it bluntly, a good national team can be your only shortcut to further progress and development."

And the administration?

"Do that parallel with this team-building job; not before and certainly not after.

"Convince your officials, clubs and States that all this is in their interest, not against it.

"Don't change the State Federations into branches, there is no need for that; leave the States — but make them pull together for the ASF.

"Make your organisation tighter, more elastic and select always the best, most experienced man for the right post. I don't think you can go wrong.

"I know it's not easy, I have heard about your difficulties.

"But no success ever comes easy.

"Another thing you could — should — consider is the creation of a junior organisation.

"This would enable you to enter for the Olympics. And that is the right place to start, at a lower level.

"Maybe the World Cup will follow."

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